FALL 2017

REACH HIGHER

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation

Pulled Pork Tailgate – Save the Date!

Friday, October 13 from 4:00-7:00 P.M.
(before the Homecoming football game)

Where: The Wash Station (on Cleveland Avenue across from the high school)
Tickets can be purchased from LEF Trustees or Lakeshore Rotarians.
Pulled pork provided by Charlie's Piggin' and Grinnin'.

Proceeds Benefit Lakeshore Public Schools . . .

trustees

J.C. Anderson
Sharon Austin
Sophie Bauchet
Kate Beckrow
Randy Bettich
Chad Deja
Ray Elmore
Phillip Freeman
Jeff Hannan
Jim Keppler
Lori Marciniak
Kim McAllister
Lisa McDowell
Phil Molloy
Kameron Morris
Julia Pechtel
Jim Roberts
Bill Scaletta
Laurie Schmidt
Kim Thompson
Naomi Ventura
Kathleen Wolf

LEF
LAKESHORE
EXCELLENCE
FOUNDATION

Help us reach you! Be a part of the Lakeshore Alumni Association.

If you graduated from Lakeshore High School, you are automatically a member of the Lakeshore Alumni Association!

Whether you attended classes wearing a poodle skirt or a mini-skirt, a bow tie or a T-shirt, you remember special things about Lakeshore High. Like the words of our school song suggest, we are loyal to our school. When we think about Lakeshore, we are filled with Lancer Pride.

The Alumni Association makes it possible for you to reconnect with old classmates, socialize with new friends, and support the school that provided you with an excellent educational foundation . . . and many, many memories.

Don't worry; we do not require dues or membership fees. We are grateful for the financial support of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation and for the efforts of our all-volunteer board. We just want to make it simple for you to stay in touch, to participate in alumni events, and to contribute to those Lakeshore school initiatives that may inspire you.

We want you to reap the benefits of active membership.

Receive newsletters electronically. You will be aware of everything happening when you receive the Lakeshore Light from the school and Excellence Matters from the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation. **Receive an invitation to your 50-year class reunion**; enjoy front row seats at commencement and a reception after the ceremony.

AND SO MUCH MORE ...

Reconnect with classmates—reminisce, laugh, enjoy!

REGISTRATION FORM

Becoming an active member is easy.

Name: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

LinkedIn URL: _____

Twitter Handle: _____

Facebook URL: _____

Would you be interested in learning more about serving on the Alumni committee?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Maybe

Comment: _____

_____

☐ SEND me the LEF Newsletter via email.

Mail to:

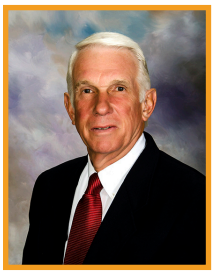
Lakeshore Excellence Foundation
5771 Cleveland Avenue,
Stevensville, MI 41927

OR Email: LEFReachHigher@gmail.com

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund is our long-term strategy to funding the LEF mission of learning for generations to come. Annually, the LEF Board evaluates the health of the fund, makes contributions based on giving and project needs, and reinvests the earned interest. If you are interested in learning more about the Endowment Fund, please contact J.C. Anderson at 269.921.2513 or email at anderjcna@gmail.com.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



J.C. Anderson
LEF Chairman

To the Lakeshore Community.... your Lakeshore Excellence Foundation has been very active since the last Newsletter as you will see with the variety of articles in this edition. I want to remind you that all of us on the Board are volunteers and have the single focus of raising money to benefit the students and staff of the Lakeshore Public Schools. Our current projection for this year is to be able to provide the school, through a major project (STEM curriculum implementation) and grants, the second highest amount of money in our history. Only through your generous contributions as a community has this been possible. Our success is very simply your success.

Here are my reflections on a number of items related to the ongoing efforts of the LEF.....

Board Members -- each Board member is asked to serve two consecutive terms of three years for a total of six years. This provides the overall Board with considerable stability as we evaluate long term project fundings. We have two excellent Board members, Sandy Welch and Tom Buckleitner, that are completing their six year terms and will be leaving us at the August Board meeting. Both Sandy and Tom have been on the Board since I was asked to join the LEF and have provided me with great support and counsel. Sandy has led us with Board nominations and seeking the appropriate skills that are needed on the Board. She is also one of the ones "behind the scenes" making events go smoothly like the golf outing. Tom worked with the Fund Development Committee and helped us become much more active and mission focused. In addition, Tom has provided his expertise into the project management necessary as we tackle major projects with extended timelines. Thank you both for your six years of quality volunteerism for the LEF.

STEM -- this is our current major project ($425,000) that is providing for the implementation of this curriculum at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. While the implementation will take several years, our fundraising for the curriculum will be completed sooner. We expect to begin the evaluation of what our next major endeavor will be for the betterment of the Lakeshore Public Schools in the next 12 months.

Golf Scramble -- on June 19, we had another very successful Golf Scramble chaired by Bill Scaletta. The course was full (32 teams) with golfers who had purchased a number of mulligans, raffle tickets, and enjoyed a buffet lunch after the golf challenges of Harbor Shores. Thanks to all who participated in making this another successful event as we were able to raise $23,900.

Lakeshore Alumni -- we continue to challenge ourselves on an effective means to get in contact with the mass of Lakeshore alumni to make them aware of the efforts of the LEF and updates regarding the Lakeshore schools. We feel that some of the best potential financial supporters of a school system are that school's graduates. If you would like to help in this effort, please contact me at anderjcna@gmail.com or (269) 921-2513.

We appreciate the opportunity to routinely update you on our activities and if you have any comments and/or suggestions please contact me in the manner noted above.

INTRODUCING OUR NEXT BIG PROJECT:

STEM

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS

STEM Implementation

As we enter our next major project (STEM), we are developing project specific information to help our contributors understand the WHY's and the WHAT's of this $425,000 investment. Look for more information on pages 10 and 11 of this newsletter.

THANK YOU 2017 LEF GOLF SPONSORS

On behalf of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation (LEF), we would like to thank the sponsors, donors, and players for your support of our 15th Annual Lakeshore Scramble held at Harbor Shores Golf Club.

SAVE THE DATE!
Next year's golf event will be held on Monday June 18, 2018.

The LEF golf event is our largest fundraiser.

Eagle Sponsor
Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC
United Federal Credit Union
Whirlpool Corporation

Birdie Sponsors
Boelcke Heating & A/C
Dr. Gary & Karen Campbell
Eagle Technologies
Kingscott Associates
Professional Hearing Services
Jim Roberts Enterprises LLC
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Herald-Palladium
Mercury Plastics
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RMB Capital

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Miller-Davis Company
U.S. Business Systems, Inc

Hole Sponsors
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J.C. & Nancy Anderson
Austin Tax & Financial
Barrett & Driscoll, MDs
Jason & Kate Beckrow
The Boulevard Inn & Bistro
Bridgman Family Dental Care – Dr. Ryan Thomas
Chemical Bank
Denny & Sue Dock
Doubleday Office Products
Edgewater Bank
Phil & Marie Freeman
Hoekstra Roofing Co.
Horizon Bank
KRUEGGEL LAWTON CPA
Lake Company LLC
Bill & Jane Marohn
Dr. Julie Powell
Jim Roberts Centennial Securities LLC
Jim Roberts Enterprises LLC
Scott Berry Promotions
Silver Beach Pizza
Silver Harbor Brewing Co.
Soft Touch Car Wash
Sun Coast Packaging, Inc.
Tyler Honda
Waterfront Framing & Fine Art
Wightman & Associates, Inc.

Prize/Raffle Donors
12 Corners Winery
221 Main
Affinity Salon & Spa
Azul Tequila Mexican Grill
Baquette de France
The Boulevard Inn & Bistro
Bufffalo Wild Wings
Clementine's
Cracker Barrel
Competitive Edge
El Rodeo
Harbor Shores Golf Club
Hilton Garden Inn
Indian Lake Hills Golf Club
Jimmy John's
Kilwin's
Lakeshore Athletic Dept.
LeValley Chevrolet
M & W Tire
Mason Jar Café
Papa Vino's
Senator John Proos
Ricky's of Stevesnville
Right at Home – Fred Welch
Round Barn Winery
Salon 1341
Santaniello's
Schu's Grill & Bar
Sensational Spas
Silver Beach Pizza
Silver Harbor Brewing Co,
Soft Touch Car Wash
Stifel – Randy Bettich
Taylor Rental
Tosi's
Watermark Brewing Co.
Whirlpool Corporation

$23,900.00

This year we realized a net fundraising figure of $23,900 ... all of which will be used to benefit the Lakeshore Public Schools.

The Honorable Daniel R. Deja and family.

2017 Distinguished Alumni Lakeshore Public Schools

The Honorable Daniel R. Deja

The Honorable Daniel R. Deja

The Lakeshore High School Alumni Association and the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation are pleased to announce that the Lakeshore Distinguished Alumni for 2017 is The Honorable Daniel R. Deja.

Deja graduated from Lakeshore High School class of 1966. He went onto earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Sciences from Michigan State University, graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Juris Doctor from New England School of Law in Boston and a Masters of Judicial Studies from the University of Nevada Reno at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada.

After ten years of private practice at Deja & Deja Law Firm in Baroda, MI, Deja served as a Judge in Berrien County Trial Court, Criminal Division; served as Chief Judge for five years and Chief Judge Pro-Tem for two years of the Fifth District Court. A total of fourteen years as Judge.

Deja has held a number of noteworthy positions working to enhance and restructure the Michigan judiciary including the Michigan Trial Court Assessment Commission, the Michigan Justice Project and the State Court Administrative Office Community Dispute Resolution Advisory Committee.

In the early 2000's, Deja used his expertise of developing International Rule of Law to the benefit of several countries. This work directly enhanced the judicial independence in Kosovo, Iraq, and the Kyrgyz Republic.

A recurring theme in the many accomplishments of Deja is his willingness to share what he knows with others and his innovative spirit to create new approaches and tools in our judicial system. Deja was instrumental in promoting judicial education through the development of programs in partnership with local school districts, news media and community.

Our congratulations and thanks to a distinguished Alumni, The Honorable Daniel Deja.

2018 NOMINATIONS

2018 Distinguished Alumni nominations are due by December 1, 2017.

50TH CLASS REUNION CELEBRATION

Lakeshore High School Class of 1967

LEF and the Lakeshore High School Alumni Association honored the Class of '67 with a 50-year reunion reception on June 4, 2017 in the high school cafeteria following commencement.

Approximately 50 classmates attended the event that was capped off by a tour of the high school.

A special thank you to the Key Club representatives who led the tour: **Jeremy Wolf, Grant Cook, Natalie Stampfly, Cassie Pallett, Kate Miller, and Emma Woodard.**

We would also like to thank **Hartlines Greenhouse and Garden Center** for donating flowers for the event, and **Denny and Betsey Sexton** for donating the pictures.

Class of '68, it is time to start planning your 50-year reunion.

For information, and to get your name on the invitation list, please fill out the form on PAGE 2 of this newsletter.

Hope to see you next year!

The Class of 1967 held their 50th Class Reunion the weekend of June 3-4. The Class enjoyed a number of activities including touring the high school and being recognized as guests of honor at the Class of 2017's graduation ceremonies. Thank you to the Alumni Association/LEF for hosting the celebration on Sunday.

The reunion was made possible through the generosity of local companies.

Baroda City Mills
Baroda Tap & Grille
C & J Berts Breakfast Corner
Cheryl Castle LMT (Mane Street Salon)
Coach's
Full Circle Café
Grand Mere Inn
Heritage Salon
Lakeshore Shell (John Curtis)
Mane Street Salon
Martin's Supermarket
Meijer
Mr. Gyros
Tosi's

Many thanks to a number of classmates who made donations. It was a great weekend.

Chris (Lucker) Lockwitz
Class of '67

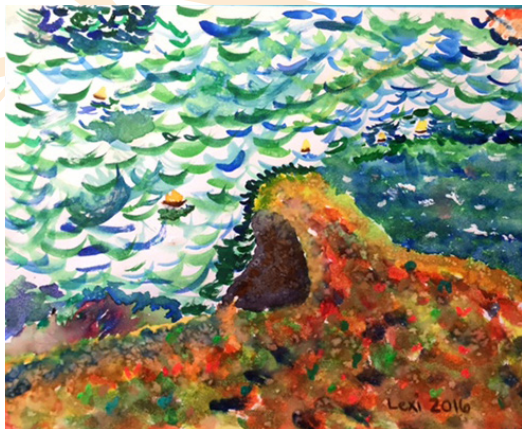
Congratulations to all students whose excellent artwork was chosen for LEF's 2017 Art Around Town program!

A reception celebrating the artists, their families, faculty and sponsoring business partners was held at The Curious Kids' Museum on June 6. Students' work has been on display at the museum throughout the summer.

Twenty creations are chosen from throughout our district each year to be professionally framed and put on display. Businesses or individuals are welcome to contract with LEF to sponsor one or more of these beautiful pieces of work. A sponsorship helps cover the cost of framing; in return, the business is invited to display the student's art for one year.

Co-chairs of the program, Naomi Ventura and Lisa McDowell, would like to thank the staff at Curious Kids', all our sponsors, and the art educators of Lakeshore Public Schools for their efforts in supporting our budding artists!

Abrielle H - Hollywood



Alexandra P - Hollywood

Anagha K. "Truly Vibrant" - LMS

Ally R. - "Night Wolf" - Stewart

Angela G. "Winter Walk" - LHS

Bayelie Z. "No Place Like Home" - Roosevelt

LEF would like to thank Rebecca Ludens for her time and efforts in judging Art Around Town this year! Rebecca is a Lakeshore Schools mom who also has spent many years working for a variety of companies in the Arts and Crafts Industry. She has taught classes for Artistic Wire, Jewel Craft, Creating Keepsakes University, EK Success, and more. She was a guest on the television show DIY Scrapbooking on the DIY Network more than a dozen times and is the author of Visual Quick Tips: Paper Crafting, Teach Yourself Visually Scrapbooking, and Better Homes and Gardens Scrapbooking Quick Tips. Today, she is a REALTOR for Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage.

Rebecca Ludens
2017 Art Around Town Judge

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Bevin S. "Branch Out and Try New Things" - Stewart Elem.

Breanna N. "Geometric Rainbow" - Stewart Elem

Danica G. "Volleyball" - Roosevelt Elem

Delaney C. "Pink Paradise" - Roosevelt Elem

Derek P. "King of Colors" - Hollywood Elem

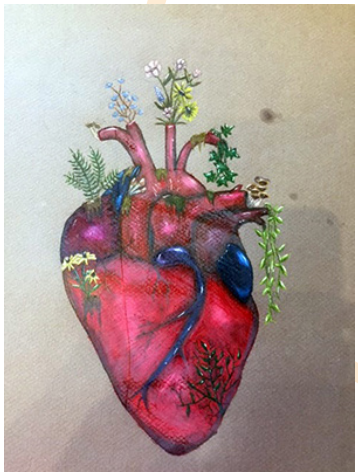
Emilee Rose H. "My Winter Scene" - Stewart Elem

Isabelle P. "Pavo Real" - LMS

Katie G. - LHS

Madison W. "Reflection on the Lake" - LMS

Makaiah K. "Penny" - Roosevelt

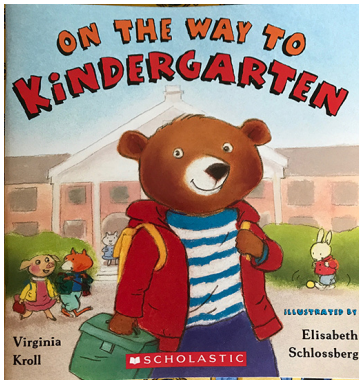

Melayna E. "Grounded" - LHS

Paige S. "Lighthouse at Sunset" - LMS

Tatenda R. "Untitled 1" - LHS

Taylor N. "Moon City" - Hollywood Elem

On the Way to Kindergarten . . .



Incoming kindergarten students receive a book from the LEF during orientation. The book offers a great way for families to spend time together reading the story and preparing their student for the first day of school.

Welcome Kindergarteners to Lakeshore Public Schools!

STEM EDUCATION

Science Technology Engineering Mathematics

Our nation needs STEM.

We face challenges as never before in complicated issues such as cybersecurity and diseases that stubbornly resist cures. We need future leaders who can collaborate, gather evidence, take risks, and solve problems—exactly the skills acquired by students who study STEM.

Local business needs STEM.

Our employers want to hire a stellar workforce. Our community would be far different without the economic stimulus of companies like Whirlpool, LECO, Bosch, Gast, Lakeland Health, and many others who need employees skilled in STEM. As many as 26 million jobs in the U.S. require significant STEM knowledge, yet too few students choose STEM career pathways.

Lakeshore needs STEM.

STEM will begin at the middle school. We are evaluating the plan on transitioning into the high school and the elementaries over the next two years. The first courses will be in engineering and will provide hands-on experience for students in everyday problem solving.

We are prepared for STEM.

Our students have proven they have the ability to be innovative leaders. A well-designed STEM curriculum taps into students' natural curiosity, using activity and project-based learning to spark interest that leads to well-paid, stimulating and secure careers.

Our teachers have the passion and talent to provide a rich learning environment. They need additional support, new strategies, and resources to bring STEM alive.

Our parents, grandparents, neighbors and friends want the most relevant education for students who will strengthen our communities.

Our school system has prepared well for this next project. We have recognized that education has taken a major shift. By transforming our libraries into 21st Century Learning Centers, we created information hubs that promote collaboration and creation. The STEM project complements the Learning Centers project, extends the concept of our existing Math/Science Center to all students, and fosters excellence and innovation in the areas of study that have made the U.S. a world leader.

Project Lead the Way

Facilitates the Implementation of STEM

Fortunately, a nonprofit organization called Project Lead the Way (PLTW) has already done exactly that – led the way! PLTW transforms the learning experience for K-12 students and teachers, making learning relevant and personal. PLTW empowers students to develop in-demand, transportable knowledge and skills through pathways in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science. **PLTW's teacher training and resources enable teachers to engage their students in real-world learning.**

More than 8,000 elementary, middle, and high schools throughout the U.S. offer PLTW programs.

Quality Costs.

We've said it before . . . we'll say it again: quality education has a high price tag.
We anticipate the total LEF spend on STEM will be approximately $425,000. This is based on what similar sized districts have experienced. Over the next year, we will understand the additional equipment, training, and curriculum that will be required, the timeline, and the costs associated with implementation of STEM.

Join us in engaging the minds, spirits and talents of our students and teachers. Help us build a workforce ready to meet the challenges of both today and tomorrow.

Plan now to contribute to the STEM project, not just this year but every year for three years!

CONTRIBUTION FORM

Name of Contributor(s):

_____

Address/City/State:

_____

Phone (Home): _____
Phone (Work): _____
Phone (Cell): _____
Email: _____

Are you a Lakeshore graduate? ☐ YES ☐ NO
If YES, what year did you graduate? _____

Will your employer match this contribution?
☐ YES ☐ NO

My contribution amount: $_____

Optional:
My gift is in honor/memory of:

_____

Address/City/State:

_____

Send form and contribution to:

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation
5771 Cleveland Avenue, Stevensville, MI 49127

Please make checks payable to Lakeshore Excellence Foundation.

LEF is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Your contributions to LEF are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

LEF
LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

In short, we all need to work together to bring STEM to Lakeshore Public Schools. So it's no surprise that the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation has pledged to fill the funding gap that can make STEM learning opportunities within the reach of every Lakeshore student.

The next great idea for our schools can come from anyone: students, teachers, staff, or community members. Every year, the LEF allocates $125,000 for grants that make a positive impact on Lakeshore Public Schools.

2017 Spring Grants Awarded

Stepping Stones *(Student Grant)*

Stepping Stones grants are for students to pursue a wide variety of interests.

Mia N., *Culinary Academy at Sherman Lake*
Lauren V., *Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp*
Emma S., *WMU Seminar Music Camp*
Leo C., *College Prep Musical Theatre Camp - University of Cincinnati*
Renee V., *Caribbean Marine Biology Voyage*
Noah C., *WMU Seminar Music Camp*
Ryan R., *Philmont Scout Camp*
Erin L., *Rotary Interact Dominican Republic Trip*
Logan E., *Junior Golf Tournaments*
Nate T., *Foreign Language Immersion*

Foundation Project

Foundation Project grants are for big ideas for a quality educational experience.

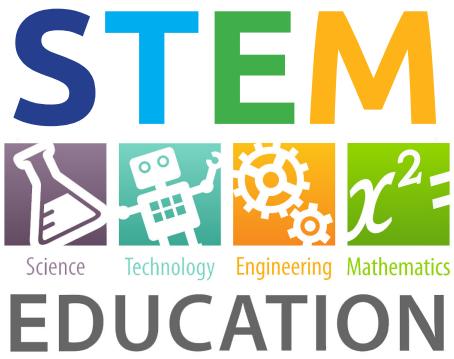
Brad Brunner, *Introduce Virtual Reality technology to the learning environment at the High School*
Cindy & Phil Huff, *New percussion equipment at the middle school*
Allison Meyer, Diana Eberhardt *Additional Kindergarten materials to support learning through hands-on exploration and play (Hollywood)*
Ricky Rhodes, Becca Merchant, Heidi Southard, Tammy Claes, Nancy Mason, Diane Boughton *"Daily Living" curriculum for students with special needs*
Laura Veldman, *Holocaust survivor, Eva Kor, to speak to 8th, 11, & 12th grades*
Jennifer Engleman , *(Middle School English Dept) Classroom libraries (choice reading)*
Patty McNees, *Sound system for Hollywood library*
Julie Powell, *Reading Program*
Lori VonKoenig, *Replacing the percussion "battery" drums and the program's drum set*
Michael Schmidt, *Update & add machinery for the Woodworking shop*
Sean Schroeder, Mike Clark, Mike Gathright, Erin Griffiths, *Basketball Gun for gym classes and the basketball team*

Professional Development

Professional Development grants build on the excellence of our staff by providing development opportunities in addition to those provided by the district. Spring winners include:

Katherine Rohwer, *American Choral Director's National Honors Choir*
Christine Sloan, *Advanced Placement National Conference, Washington, DC*
Alaina Kinney, *Advanced Placement National Conference, Washington, DC*
Kristen Pennington, *Teacher's College Summer Institute, New York*
Kelli Battistone, *Teacher's College Summer Institute, New York*
Angie Johnson, *Teacher's College Summer Institute, New York*
Dawn Knuth, *Teacher's College Summer Institute, New York*
Cindy Vaughn, *Teacher's College Summer Institute, New York*
Jillian Crockett, *Teacher's College Summer Institute, New York*
Maddie Kleinhample, *Teacher's College Summer Institute, New York*
Phil Huff, *Conn-Selmer Institute, Mishawaka, IN*
Cindy Huff, *Conn-Selmer Institute, Mishawaka, IN*
Carole Conrad, *Michigan Music Conference, Grand Rapids*
Kathleen Ernst, *PowerSchool University training*
Laura Veldman, *National Spelling Bee, Washington, DC*
Kimberly Landeck, *Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference, Traverse City*
Andrea Ricci, *Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference, Traverse City*
Nancy Hourigan, *International Conference on Music Learning Theory, OakPark, IL*
David Castonguay, *Class Disrupt, Grand Rapids*
Alma Holtgren, *Michigan Association of Computers Users in Learning (MACUL), Grand Rapids*

GRANTS — BRING YOUR IDEA TO LIFE
Apply for grants online at LEFonline.org



This is the second year for STEM classes in Lakeshore Public Schools. There will be two new STEM courses that begin a pathway in Engineering and Computer Science at the high school level.

Introduction to Engineering Design

This is a year-long foundational course for Engineering. Students will be introduced to the engineering profession and a common approach to the solution of engineering problems and engineering design processes. Students will use the activity-project-problem-based teaching and learning approach. Moving from structured activities to solving open-ended projects and problems.

Computer Science Essentials

In Computer Science Essentials, students will use visual, block-based programming and seamlessly transition to text-based programming, with languages such as Python, to create apps, develop websites, and learn how to make computers work together to put their design into practice. They will apply computational thinking practices, build their vocabulary, and collaborate just as computing professionals do to create products that address topics and problems important to them.

STEM and Project Lead the Way

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is a nationally recognized Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) curriculum. The PLTW curriculum features an engaging, hands-on classroom environment and empowers students to develop in-demand knowledge and skills they need to thrive. STEM careers are the fastest growing career pathways in the United States.

Through the generosity of donors to LEF, Lakeshore Public Schools began implementation of STEM classes in 2016/2017 in the middle school and will continue to build the program over the next five years at all grade levels.

Mrs. Tracy Smith, Lakeshore Middle School Teacher

"In 7th grade, the program was very successful and the students loved it! The activities were hands-on and challenging for students, which kept the engagement high. When surveyed, some of the students' favorite activities were the sheep brain dissection, the chickenpox virus activity, and the testing the senses activity. As a teacher, I found the curriculum very exciting to teach and it was satisfying to see students so engaged and excited to learn."

Certified Nursing Assistant Program Start-up at LHS

The need for vocational training in Southwest Michigan is enormous. Lakeshore Public Schools has met the challenge by preparing students for these "real world" jobs by offering Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways in Welding, Machine Tooling, Automotive, Woodworking, Computer Aided Design (CAD), Marketing, and Teacher Cadets. These programs are offered in state-of-the art facilities supported by the community through the 2013 Bond, the sinking fund, and donations to the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation.

In late spring, Lakeshore High School learned that the one Certified Nurse's Assistant (CNA) program offered at another school district might no longer be offered. LHS in cooperation with LEF, Community Wellness Foundation at Lakeland Health and other sponsors responded quickly to ensure the program would have a home this fall.

Lakeshore High School is excited to add a CNA program to our offerings beginning this fall. The CNA classes serve a different population of students who are currently underserved in our community. Those who enroll in the CNA program are generally non-college bound students looking for career training prior to leaving high school. The program is taken during school hours and can accommodate up to 26 students per year at no cost to the student.

This program, like our other CTE programs, will be staffed by highly qualified staff in up-to-date facilities. This will be the first time Lakeshore has offered classes in the healthcare field that will lead to immediate employability skills.

***Jill McNabnay**, 2017 EPI Magdalena Bay Fellow,* is a high school science teacher in Stevensville, Michigan. She teaches biology, environmental science, forensics, and physics. Jill received her bachelor's degree in secondary education from Western Michigan University and went on to earn a master's degree in biology from Michigan State University. Jill's passion for the environment shows, as she has spent several summers doing a Research Experience for Teachers at the University of Notre Dame.

Reflections of a First-Time International Traveler

As I've thought back on my experience with EPI (Ecology Project International), the one word I keep coming back to is: "story." The scenery was amazing. The wildlife was majestic. The research was inspiring. But more than anything, I was struck by the small snippets of different people's stories we experienced in our limited time with them. And although I only know small pieces of each person's story that we met, I continue to be inspired by the little bit of themselves that they shared with us. Thinking back on our time in Magdalena Bay, I'm reminded that everyone has a story, and everyone's story is worth sharing.

Don Jose's Story

1

We met Don Jose on our first full day in Magdalena Bay. He came to the campsite to show us how to measure and collect data on the Green Sea Turtles we would hopefully be encountering the next day. Using the research tools and speaking only Spanish, he gracefully showed us how to take each measurement on turtles that we had made in the sand. The next day, Don Jose went out two hours before us in the early morning to put down the net and wait for the turtles. This is something he often does, as now the lone volunteer turtle research in Baja California. Don Jose is a fisherman by trade, who years ago, used to capture turtles. He now exerts so much time, effort, and energy into saving a species that is on the brink of extinction because of his renewed passion for Magdalena Bay and the turtles.

Uber's Story

2

Uber was our head chef for the week. The food that he cooked was amazing, and the love that he showed for his work was truly inspiring. Once one of the top turtle chefs in the world, Uber found a way to turn his passion for cooking into helping with conservation efforts, rather than destroying the wildlife of his native land. Uber and his crew were helpful, hardworking, and full of joy. They may not have been rich in money, but they were rich in spirit. And the depth of relationships they had with each other and with us (in just our short time there) was truly inspirational.

The Stories of Local Researchers

3

One of the things that I enjoyed most about this experience was that each day we partnered with a different local researcher and joined them in their work. The researcher who took us to observe and photo-tag Grey Whales told us the story of his work and his passion. He strongly desired to go out and see and photograph the whales more, but was limited by funding. He did the best he could with what he had, but deeply desired to be able to do more. The researcher who took us snorkeling with Whale Sharks was in the water so much that she knew them by name. She told us more of their story than her own, which exemplified her deep commitment to her research and to protecting the sharks.

Story of the Wildlife

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Even the wildlife had a story to tell. The turtles were preparing to go back to the beach they were born on, in order to lay their eggs. Some of them would soon be traveling thousands of miles to get back to where they originated. The sharks' story is a bit of a mystery, but scientists are sure they have one (like we all do) and are desperately trying to learn what it is before it's too late.

The Story of Us

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There were ten teachers from across the United States and Canada and four EPI educators on this trip. Each of us came from different places in life, with different goals, and with a different story. But we were united for a week by the common story that we lived out together. And that is a story that I will continue to tell for years to come.

The mission of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation is to acquire and distribute resources that support various Lakeshore Public School programs and projects aimed at enhancing, enriching, or supplementing learning opportunities for students, staff, and community.

New Trustee – Kathleen Wolf

Kathleen Wolf

New Trustee Joins the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation Board

The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation Board is happy to welcome our newest Trustee. **Kathleen Wolf is joining the Marketing Committee of LEF.**

Kathleen Wolf has two children, Brock (13) and Kelsey (12), at Lakeshore Middle School as well as her furry child, a golden retriever named Laguna. Kathleen comes from a family of small business owners and considers herself an entrepreneur on the inside of companies, diving into new areas or functions that need to identify compelling opportunities. She spent 25 years at Whirlpool Corporation in various sales, marketing, branding and communications roles. After Whirlpool Corp., Kathleen joined Sacunas, Inc. where she took on the role of VP, Client Experience (Central Region) and she now consults with clients on strategic branding, marketing and communications projects. Kathleen has degrees from Cardinal Stritch and Loyola Universities, and has served on the Boards of 100 Women Strong, as well as Cornerstone Alliance Women's Business Center. Her passion for marketing will greatly benefit LEF.

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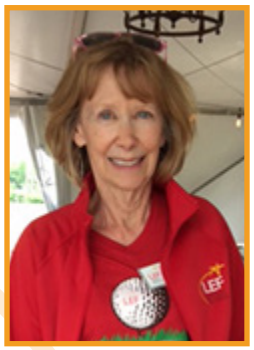
Tom Buckleitner



Sandy Welch

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOLUNTEERISM

Sandy Welch and Tom Buckleitner

LEF says a heartfelt thanks and farewell to Sandy Welch and Tom Buckleitner who have been LEF Trustees since 2011.

Sandy has chaired our Nominating Committee, Prize Collection for the Golf Outing, and Professional Development Grants Committee, as well as one year of Stepping Stone Grants. Sandy shared, *"Being on the LEF Board and seeing the impact on the students and teachers has been a very rewarding experience. Thank you for the opportunity."*

Tom has primarily served on the Fund Development Committee. Tom stated, *"It is amazing the strong support we receive from the community. When people learn about the role LEF plays to bridge the gap of lower than average state funding, they are receptive to learning more and knowing how they can contribute through LEF to the schools."* Tom feels the relationship between Lakeshore staff and the LEF is important, as it ensures the LEF Board is really in touch with the needs of the school. The technology program and the learning center updates are two projects in which he is particularly proud of the role LEF played, as well as our current support with STEM.

We appreciate the years of service Sandy and Tom have dedicated to LEF and wish them the best.